

The War of the Worlds

Assorted versions of H.G.Wells' famous story and the most well known broadcast of all time. Varying times.

1. 10/30/38 Mercury Theater ~ 60m
2. 10/31/38 Day after news reports ~ 45m
3. 10/28/40 Documentary on Orson Welles and the Mercury Theater, rehearsal clips played, plus interview with Howard Koch and others. Followed by an actual discussion between Orson Welles and H.G.Wells about War of the Worlds. 40m
4. 2/08/55 Lux Radio Theater ~ George Pal film version ~ 60m
5. 1957 South African version (this broadcast is sometimes falsely attributed to the BBC) ~ 6 episodes ~ 180m
6. 10/27/58 The Night America Trembled ~ Edward R. Morrow presents dramatizations of parallel events and people's reactions during the 1938 broadcast. Reenacted excerpts from the original are played in the background ~ 40m
7. 1961 West coast version ~ story takes place in and around San Francisco ~ 60m
8. 6/00/67 BBC ~ 6 episodes ~ 180m
9. 11/20/70 KNOX St. Louis, MI ~ interview with 1938 version writer, Howard Koch, plus highlights of that broadcast and telephone call-in questions. Then, Long John Nebel (radio commentator 1954-89), with... "The Truth About Flying Saucers", plus War of the Worlds news reports. Excellent ~ 2x90m
10. 10/31/73 The Night the Nation Panicked ~ NPR ~ from Indiana University, Howard Koch and others are interviewed while clips are played from the original broadcast ~ 60m
11. 10/31/74 WKBW Buffalo, N.Y. ~ the most convincing one of them all ~ 90m
12. 1976 ~ reading by Leonard Nimoy ~ 60m
13. 10/29/76 Stereo dramatization on KPFR from "Hour 25" ~ 5x30m
14. 1978 Extremely rare musical version with Richard Burton from a 2 record set ~ great music ~ 88m ~ 2 tapes
15. 1981 Seven hour commercial reading of The War of the Worlds and The Time Machine ~ 7 tapes
16. 1987 BBC reading in stereo ~ 96m
17. 12/27/88 We Interrupt This Program..... ~ A BBC 50th anniversary radio documentary of the War of the Worlds broadcast with news excerpts and a rare retrospective by John Houseman 6 months before his death ~ 60m
18. 1988 NPR 50th Anniversary version with Jason Robards, plus, 30m of news commentary ~ 90m total
19. 1990 FOTR convention ~ selected parts read by Raymond Edward Johnson ~ 30m
20. 1990's Reading by Robt. Hardy ~ 120m
21. 1992 "They Came for the Candy" ~ War of the Worlds spoof done on NPR ~ highly recommended ~ 30m
22. Midwest version ~ story takes place in Ohio ? ~ not available
23. 10/31/94 NPR version with actors from the Star Trek TV series playing parts. Leonard Nimoy narrates ~ 50m
24. 1994 War of the Worlds II ~ a commercial release in 5-2x90m parts (10 tapes all together), fully dramatized, set in the present day. The 1938 invasion actually happened and now, in the present, the world has run out of fresh water and is mining the ice caps to get more. This supply is projected to last only ten years and, so, we have sent a mission to Mars to see if there is water under the surface that we can extract and send to Earth. A greedy mogul who runs the ice miner's union and owns all of the water purification plants wants to thwart our plans and maintain his monopoly on the water supply. Meanwhile, it turns out that there are two alien races on Mars: One race are the ones who attacked us, but, they only did it to subdue us so that we could help them defeat the others. The other race enslaved the previously peaceful first race and, if they find out that we're intelligent, will enslave us, too. Neither of the 2 races are native to Mars.
24. 1997 ~ commercial release version (Ziplow Productions) ~ meteor lands in Hilton Head, N.C. ~ 2x90m **TRADE ONLY**
25. 1/20/97 CBC ~ Live version of Koch script with one notable difference: ALL of the sound effects are done orally ~ 50m